RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year ended 31st December 1946.

To the Chairman & Members of the
RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for your District for the year ended 31st December, 1946. This report is compiled according to instructions contained in Circular 1961 (Wales).

SECTION 'A' - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District (in acres)	4,195
Population 1945	14,790
Rateable Value	£52,844
Sum represented by one penny rate	£ 192

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population -	18.5
The Birth Rate for England and Wales -	19.1
The Birth Rate for Monmouthshire was -	19.9

INFANT MORTALITY.

	Total	Males	Females.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	12	9	3

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population -	11.6
Death Rate for England and Wales -	11.5
Death Rate for County of Monmouth -	11.7
Infant Death Rate for County of Monmouth -	47.6

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Chief industries carried on in this Area are coal-mining and its subsidiary industries, also steel manufacturing. There are also several stone quarries and brick works. These industries do not have any particular influence on public health.

Ages at Death of children under 1 year, 1946.

Under 1 week	7
1 - 2 weeks	1
2 - 3 weeks	0
3 - 4 weeks	0
Total under 1 month	8
1 - 3 months	2
3 - 6 months	1
6 - 9 months	1
9 -12 months	-
	12

There are no special causes of sickness during the year which need reporting upon. The general conditions of health were good.

SECTION 'B' - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officer of the Authority.

Part-time Medical Officers of Health and whole-time Sanitary Inspector who acts as Foods Inspector.

2. There are no changes in the services provided under the following heads:-

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The St. John Ambulance is available for accidents and sickness to which a number of the population contribute a small weekly fee.

(c) Nursing in the home.

There is a very efficient voluntary Nursing Association in the Area which employs three district nurses.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These are available and controlled by the Monmouthshire County Council.

(e) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary,

The Hospitals used are the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and the Hospitals controlled by the Monmouthshire County Council Public Assistance Committee.

SECTION 'C' - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water.

The particulars of water supplies have not materially altered. The supply during the year has been both satisfactory in quantity and quality.

2. Drains and Sewerage.

There has been no important extensions to the sewerage and drainage system of the District during the year.

3. Rivers and Streams.

No action was taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area during the year.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Particulars will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

5. Public Cleansing.

There were no extensions or improvements during the year in the arrangements for public cleansing.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

A classified statement of the premises visited, the defects and nuisances discovered and the action and result of action taken with regard to these will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

7. Shops.

The shops in the area are periodically visited by your Sanitary Inspector and appropriate action taken to deal with any nuisances

or defects discovered.

8. Smoke Abatement.

No action was taken in reference to this paragraph.

9. Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one open air Swimming Pool owned by the Council. This pool is used to a great extent and is conducted in a very satisfactory manner.

10. Camping Sites.

There are no Camping Sites in this Area.

11. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

10 Houses were found to be infested with bugs. In each case complete eradication was affected. All cracks, crevices, woodwork, etc., are treated with the blow lamp and then sprayed with Zaldecide.

12. Schools.

The Schools in the district were visited during the year and when defects were found they were reported to the Education Authority.

SECTION 'D'.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts ... 110

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 354

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ...

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ...

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be in full respects reasonable fit for human habitation ... ...

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their Officers - 90

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936;

(1) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ... ...

(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ...

(a) By Owners.

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts -

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ...

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices ... 13

(a) By Owners - 13

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners -

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders -

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made -

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement of room having been rendered fit -

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year - 99

(2) Number of families dwelling therein - 156

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein - 734

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year -

(c) (1) Number of cases overcrowding relieved during the year - 7

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases - 29

(d) Particulars of any houses becoming overcrowded after first relief -

SECTION 'E'.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Farms and Dairies have been regularly inspected and samples of milk taken and examined for bacterial content and for tubercle bacili, under the various Milk and Dairies Orders. For details see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

For action taken with regard to Meat and other Foods, Slaughter Houses, etc., see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(c) ADULTERATION.

No special action was taken under these Acts and Regulations.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

Ample use is made of the facilities provided by the County Laboratory.

(e) NUTRITION.

No action has been taken under this Section.

SECTION "F".

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of notifiable diseases are visited by your Sanitary Inspector. If necessary, arrangements are made for the removal of patients to an Isolation Hospital.

There were 36 cases of Scarlet Fever as compared with 19 during the previous year.

There were no cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis notified during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children immunised during the year	- 496
Total No. of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection	- 712.

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RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Year ended - 31st December, 1946.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED Age Groups													DEATHS Age Groups												Total	NUMBER ADMITTED TO HOSPITALS.
	under 1 yr	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 65	65 & over	Total all ages.	Under 1 yr	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 65	65 & over	all ages	
Diphtheria					1	7	5						13						1							1	12
Scarlet Fever		1	1	1	4	13	7	7	2				36														
Enteric Fever																											
Pneumonia	4	2	3	2	3	2	4	7	7	5	14	2	55	2										4	4	10	
Puerperal Fever																											
Cerebro Spinal Fever																											
Acute Poliomelitis																											
Encepho. Lethargica																											
Dysentry																											
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5												5														
Puerperal Pyrexia									2				2														1
Measles and German Measles	1	3	3	2	1	1							11														
Whooping Cough	2	7	6	9	12	8							44	1												1	
Other Diseases State nature Erysipelas									1	2	7	3	13														
TOTALS	12	13	13	14	21	31	16	14	12	7	21	5	179	3					1					4	4	12	13

Tuberculosis is not to be included in this summary.

Signed ALEX W. PATERSON.
Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	CASES NOTIFIED Pulmonary. M.	F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	F.	DEATHS Pulmonary. M.	F.	Non-Pulmonary. M.	F.
0 - 1								
1 - 5								
5 - 15				5				1
15 - 25	1	3	1		1	1		
25 - 35	6	2	1			3		
35 - 45	1	1			3	1		
45 - 65	1	1			1	2		
65 & over								
Total	9	7	2	5	5	7		1

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

AND WORKSHOPS.

Premises.	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories with Mechanical Power	34	-	-
Factories without Mechanical Power	25	-	-
Other Premises	8	-	-
	67	-	-

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

	Defects found	Defects Remedied	Refer to H.M.Insp	Prosecutions.
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences.	-	-	-	-
Insufficient	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
Not separate for Sexes	-	-	-	-
Other Offences	-	-	-	-
				-

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

A.W.PATERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Sanitary Inspector
for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

To the Chairman & Members of the
RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the work accomplished by the Public Health Department for the year ended the 31st December, 1946.

Statement of Sanitary and Housing Works completed during year.

EXTERIOR.

Roofs repaired and made weatherproof	82
Eavesguttors repaired or renewed	46
Chimney Stacks repaired	9
Ventilating Shafts repaired	12

INTERIOR.

Windows renewed or repaired	25
Floors renewed or repaired	24
Walls replastered	40
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	10
Staircases renewed or repaired	8

DRAINAGE.

Drains repaired	7
Drains cleansed	70
Inspection chambers repaired and provided with covers	22
Waste pipes provided	4

WATER CLOSETS.

New pedestal pans provided	17
Flush tanks provided	14
Closet compartments repaired	10

Miscellaneous Repairs and Nuisances erc., Abated.

Water Services repaired	10
Houses provided with Water Supply	5
Houses fumigated or sprayed after infectious disease	60
Houses sprayed for vermin	16

The above matters give no indication of the time and effort expended in carrying them out due to the acute shortage of labour and materials prevailing in the area.

Inspection of Meat and other Food.

The butcher's shops of the district were regularly visited and the meat examined. Our slaughterhouses are still closed and all meat coming into the area is examined at the Public Abattoir, Newport.

Many visits were paid to the shops very often at the request of the traders.

The following are particulars of meat and other foods surrendered during the year:-

395 lbs English Beef	Bone Taint.
314½ " Imported Beef.	" "
41 lbs Bacon.	" "
30½ lbs Ham.	" "
Carcase and organs of Sheep	Dropsy and Emaciation.
8 Boxes Kippers.	Decomposition.
9½ lbs cheese.	"
1 Pigs Head.	Tuberculosis.
1 Leg of Lamb.	Abscess,
11¼ lbs Prunes.	Decomposition.
27¼ lbs Butter.	Tainted.
24 lbs Margarine.	"
7 6 lb tins Corned Beef.	Blown.
32 tins Evaporated Milk.	"
21 tins Condensed Milk.	"
16 tins Stewed Steak.	"
20 tins Sardines.	"
33 tins Beans.	"
8 tins Peas.	"
2 tins Spaghetti.	"
3 tins Soup.	"
8 tins Pilchards.	"
49 tins Salmon.	"
3 tins Tomatoes.	"
5 tins Carrots.	"
7 tins Pork Luncheon Meat.	"
4 tins Mackerel.	"
13 tins Plums.	"
2 tins Crawfish.	"
10 tins Jam.	"

Milk Supply.

The Cowsheds, Milkshops and Dairies in your District were periodically visited during the year to ensure that the milk produced and retailed in the area was clean and free from contamination.

There are 27 milk traders operating in the area 3 bringing in milk from other areas.

145 samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological analysis to the Laboratories. Of these 144 were satisfactory while the remaining 1 failed to pass the required tests.

The three grades of milk under the Milk Special Designations Order are Certified Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested. One firm retails Pasteurised Milk in the area.

Ministry of Food Rodent Control Scheme.

At the beginning of the year a maintenance treatment of the sewer manholes of the district was completed. These treatments have very beneficial effects upon the degree of surface infestations and this is reflected in the number of complaints received.

Shops Inspections under Shops Acts 1912 - 1938.

During the course of the year many visits were paid to shops and particular attention was paid to cleanliness, ventilation, sanitary conveniences and their condition, washing facilities and as to whether seating accommodation was provided for female employees.

Frequent visits were also made at night to ensure that the closing hours specified under the Acts were being observed.

I was quite satisfied that the hours were being observed and would add that in some instances shops were found to be closed before the normal times.

Infectious Diseases.

All cases of Infectious Diseases were promptly visited and all efforts were made to trace the course of infection.

Advice is given to the householders together with a warning notice which is placed in the window. The house is thoroughly fumigated or sprayed when the attending Doctor certifies the patient to be free from infection.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

GLYN M. JENKINS.

Sanitary Inspector.